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Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Pilot

Coalition: Albuquerque and Bernalillo County, NM

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

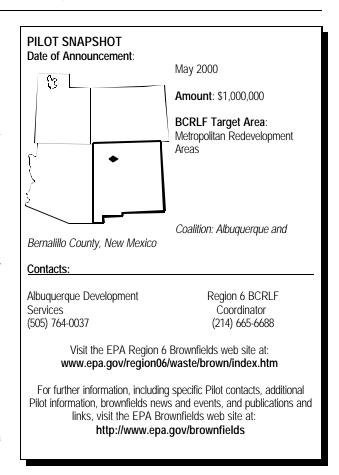
EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$500,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

The Albuquerque and Bernalillo County BCRLF Coalition consists of the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County. Together, the two entities form the largest metropolitan area in New Mexico. The metropolitan area is grappling with environmental degradation associated with early industrial growth, especially in central-city neighborhoods. At least 3.000 acres of brownfields are located in designated Metropolitan Redevelopment Areas (MRAs) and another 1,000 acres are located along transportation corridors in Bernalillo County. The poverty rate is 14 percent in the City and 20 percent in the County. The minority population is 30 percent in the City and 52 percent in the County. The City is a designated Federal Enterprise Community and a Brownfields Assessment Pilot. Bernalillo County also is a designated Job Training and Development Pilot.

BCRLF OBJECTIVES

The Albuquerque and Bernalillo County BCRLF Coalition intends to increase lending institutions' awareness of brownfield financing needs, reduce the acreage of contaminated property, and reduce umemployment and crime. The BCRLF is targeting properties within the boundaries of designated



Metropolitan Redevelopment Areas. Specific targeted sites include the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation rail yard property, the Nine Mile Hill Landfill, the Public Service Company of New Mexico Prager site, and the Old Albuquerque High School.

FUND STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

The City of Albuquerque, through Albuquerque Development Services, is designated as lead agency. Bernalillo County's Environmental Health Department will serve as site manager. The New Mexico Community Development Loan Fund will act as fund manager. A team of representatives from Albuquerque Development Services, Bernalillo County, and the New Mexico Community Development Loan Fund will review loan applications. The BCRLF monies will be available to the respective coalition members in equal amounts.

LEVERAGING OTHER RESOURCES

Potential sources of complementary funding for the Albuquerque Coalition's BCRLF include New Mexico's Clean Water State Revolving Fund, US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration programs, and US Department of Housing and Urban Development programs. The BCRLF will coordinate the environmental cleanup with the Brownfields Environmental Technician Training program. The City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County will provide GIS services and materials, legal counsel, and community outreach services.

Use of BCRLF Pilot funds must be in accordance with CERCLA, and all CERCLA restrictions on use of funding also apply to BCRLF funds.